

VAN NUYS MIDDLE SCHOOL
A California Partnership School
SHARED DECISION MAKING COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: 10/21/2008

TIME: 3:15 P.M.

LOCATION: Family Center

In Attendance: Dr. A. Barner, D. Phillips, J. Phillips, B. Teixeira,, J Kommer, B. Klein, O. Antonio, K. Tizcareno, F. Blacco, Y. Walker, A. Mansur, L. Gadwood, J. Clemmensen

MINUTES

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:14.

II. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes to our Sept. 16 meeting were approved with the following corrections: Change Kline to Klein, change Phillips to Phillips.

III. AGENDA APPROVAL:

The agenda was approved with modifications: The report on the water was added to Unfinished Business. Under New Business, take out the recognition of Mr. Sheanin. Add Thanksgiving Baskets, Recognition, Ms. Gadwood.

IV. STUDENT LEADERSHIP:

Upcoming events:

October 24 will be Birthday Jamboree
October 31 will be Spirit Day dress up
November 4 will be Election day at lunch.

All three items were discussed and approved. There was some concern that the election would interfere with the real election, but the situation will be managed.

Mr. Phillips reported that additional student dances will take place on January 27, February 17, March 24, and May 26.

Mr. Mansur enquired as to whether an administrator is required to be at the school dance. Dr. Barner clarified that an administrator is not required to be there, however an administrator must make a walk through. Ms. Klein expressed some concern that Mr. Phillips needs assistance managing the dances because situations do arise and administration support is needed. Mr. Hayes stated that he and some campus aides would be present to clear out any disruptive students. Dr. Barner said she would make sure an administrator would be on site to lend support to Mr. Phillips.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Dr. Barner handed out the schedules of Common Planning –Teams, Common Planning – Departments, and Professional Development meetings

Mr. Kommer reported that it is illegal to use water for irrigation and cleaning before 5:00 P.M. These activities can take place before 9:00 A.M. and after 5:00 P.M. This was researched in connection to cleaning out the recycle bins on campus.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

No budget report was presented at the meeting.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Mr. Kommer commented on the excessive use of paper during today's PD.

EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE:

No equipment issues were reported on at the meeting.

SCHEDULING COMMITTEE:

No scheduling issues were discussed at the meeting beyond the added student dance dates.

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE:

Mr. Hayes commented that things are going well. Eighty percent of the time the Discipline Tracker is being used appropriately.

Mr. Mansur reported that some students are not listed on the Discipline Tracker. Mr. Hayes asked him to send the names of the students. Teachers should send tardy referrals to the "Dean's Office" not "Mr. Hayes."

Mr. Teixeira brought up the concern that student tardies are on the up-tick. It was agreed that a targeted tardy lockout may help solve the problem. Dr. Barner added that student "wandering" will be increased. Mr. Mansur brought up the concern that students were running in the 6th grade hallway. Ms. Klein brought up her concern that some of the students are wearing possibly dangerous spikes in their ears that can be used as weapons. Dr. Barner suggested that all members of the committee will keep an eye out. Ms. Klein brought up the topic of belt buckles. No letters, no initials, and no marijuana emblems are allowed.

INCENTIVE COMMITTEE:

Ms. Gadwood asked what is allowable as far as incentives for motivating students to comply with the school uniform and tardy policy. Ms. Harris suggested giving students a piece of cake on the Birthday Jamboree

days. Ms. Gadwood said she would explore. Mr. Kommer floated a front-of-the-line pass distribution by grade level, also an incentive breakfast. It was decided to try the front-of-the-line pass, by giving each teacher 5 passes to distribute. The program will start after the 10 week grade reports.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Dr. Barner floated the idea of providing Thanksgiving baskets to our families in need. Ideas were floated. Mr. Phillips will manage the program through Leadership. Dr. Barner and Mr. Phillips will communicate the needs of the program to the rest of the school site.

VII. ACTION ITEMS:

- Wearing shirts for College Awareness Month: Mr. Phillips suggested that students can wear their college T-shirts on the two remaining Thursdays in October. The committee agreed. Mr. Phillips and Mr. Rosales will put out a memo to faculty.
- QEIA money:
Dr. Barner is concerned that the use of QEIA money for 11 teachers is not manageable over the long haul. She believes that the maximum number should be 5 teachers at the most because other uses of the money are being negatively impacted. In addition the student reduction this year is not consistent across the board.
- Grade-level meetings for students:
These meetings will be scheduled in the auditorium by grade level to introduce the counselors as well as reiterating the school procedures and rules for students.

VIII. SETTING OF NEXT MEETING:

- Our next meeting is scheduled for November 18.
- Our meeting was adjourned at 4:22